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Cottagers: It takes all kinds

By Janet Trull

It doesn't make sense to say welcome back to all the cottagers who will be arriving for this long weekend. We've been here all winter, some of them will tell you. We skied and curled and skated. We explored the snowmobile trails and watched the wolves cross the lake and we ate fresh fish after a day in the ice hut. We went to every arts and music event we could find. We shovelled and salted and cursed right along with the locals. What do you mean, welcome back?

And welcome back doesn't apply to the new cottagers. The ones who have recently become hooked on the idea of sitting in a "Haliburton" chair on a dock with a beverage. They've been to the Cottage Show and picked up the cottage vibe and rented a cottage on one of the Highlands' 600 lakes for the long weekend. Lucky them. There is no better region in Canada for a cottage initiation. Enjoy. We know you'll be back.

But we can say welcome back to the thousands of Haliburton cottagers, many of whom are multi-generational clans, who open the door they locked last Thanksgiving and take a deep breath and say… oh, baby. That's the best smell in the world. That's the smell of my heart coming home.

Over the years, there have been some May two-four weekends when the sun shines and the temperatures soar and the kids swim and the boat gets launched. But, alas, they are not the norm. More often there is a little struggle. "Every path has a puddle," my Nana used to say.

What will your struggle be this year? Sodden campfire wood? The mouse nest in your very favourite flannel shirt? A gash in the water line? (Just kidding. That never happens. Hardly ever. Well, not every year.)

That's the fun part. The element of surprise. You'll figure it out and solve the problem and avoid disaster. The outcome may even become a family story, told for years to come as you sit around a smoky mess of wet logs (at least it keeps the black flies away). Remember when your daughter's partner, the tattoo artist, hacked the foot valve and got the water going? You didn't expect that, did you? The cottage is where all bets are off. It's the place where we get to know each other and discover the best in ourselves.

"A trouble-free long weekend does not a skilled cottager make." Nana said that, too, or something along those lines. So welcome back, long-time cottagers! Welcome for the first time. Welcome again, even if you were here all along. The Haliburton Highlands are waiting for your laughter and your tears and the time of your life.

Welcome back to all cottagers, even to those who never left. The headaches and joys of cottage life await.

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YAMAHA

The quiet devotion of the hen turkey

Walking Softly column and photo by Steve Galea

I watched the hen turkey as she picked gravel and ate bugs along the shoulder of a dusty, dead end road. It's a sight that's increasingly common in Haliburton these days and one that's easy to dismiss. And I almost did too.

But then she turned and her feathers lit up in incredible coppery hues that could only be described as beautiful. And I was once again reminded there's more to a hen wild turkey than meets the eye.

Soon after, she slipped into the woods and disappeared among the shadows, mossy boulders, fallen logs and new greenery.

Every now and then I could hear the sound of her feet swishing brittle leaves. On occasion, I caught glimpses of her white head bobbing through the undergrowth, farther and farther away.

When I thought she was out of sight, I slipped into the woods, with camera in hand, and sat with my back to a tree, just as I would on a turkey hunt. My hope was whatever brought her to the area would draw her back.

I sat silently, cooled by a breeze that carried bird songs and the freshness of spring. Around me, horse tail rushes poked skyward from damp soil, and new leaves, bright and green, shivered on the ends of frail stems.

And, if you listened closely, the putt-putt-putt of that hen turkey could still be heard as she milled indecisively in the distance. That sound is an alarm call and an indication she knew I was there.

It told me the odds of seeing her up close would be slim. But something told me to wait.

Perhaps it was her reticence to leave the area.

Maybe it was because those alarm calls had slowly grown farther apart before stopping altogether. It just might have been the instinct we all possess.

Whatever the reason, she relaxed and began feeding my way. Before long she was pecking and poking within 15 feet.

And then, the reason she returned was made clear.

She sat on a nest, which for a turkey is merely a space on the ground where leaves have been cleared off.

She lowered herself delicately and adjusted her position. I took photos and, quietly as I could, backed out of the area.

A hen nests in the leaves and branches on the forest floor. Once she lays eggs she will incubate them for 28 days

Though she knew I was there, she did not leave.

Whether she continues to use that nest remains to be seen – for turkeys are rightfully cautious about such things. If so, she will visit it quietly, laying one egg a day until somewhere around a dozen sit in that spot. Then she will begin to incubate them for 28 days until her offspring emerge.

The process makes her vulnerable, for she nests alone. Worse yet, once incubation starts she will no longer spend nights roosting in the relative safety of trees. Rather, she will sit still on those eggs, hoping that a predator does not stumble upon her in the night.

Hen mortality is significantly higher than that of males because of this burden. Toms and jakes do not suffer for the next generation.

If the nest is raided or that first young brood destroyed, she will likely lay a second clutch. But the chicks born in that effort have a greater challenge. There is less growing season till winter and they are small, easy targets at a time when predators are working hardest to feed their young.

So, ideally, we want those first nests to succeed.

That's why I have not returned. I'll visit again in summer. And if all goes right, she'll be herding unruly offspring and looking all the more beautiful in the sunlight.

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Music series promises a bit of everything

By Angelica Blenich

The Haliburton Rotary Club is bringing back its Music in the Park series with a brand new line-up of local talent set to hit the bandshell beginning July 7.

Entering its second year, the music series first came to fruition after the club spearheaded a project to build a new, more user friendly bandshell for Head Lake Park.

Like last year, the summer concert series will take place every Tuesday evening starting on July 7 and running for six weeks, ending Aug. 11.

The concerts are admission by donation, are accessible and can be heard throughout the village, said Music in the Park committee chairwoman Andrea Roberts.

"People in the apartments and condos [in town] are sitting on their balconies listening to the music," she said, referring to the inaugural year. "McKecks told me that they turn the music off on the patio on Tuesday nights and people were sitting on the patio having a drink and listening to the music. I thought that's so cool."

Kicking off this year's series will be the Highlands Swing Band, with Cassidy Glecoff opening for the band.

"That was the very first concert last year and there was torrential thunderstorms so we cancelled," said Roberts. "We had to make sure that they were back."

On July 14, Gord Kidd and the 50/50 band will be hitting the stage, with a possible guest performer, said Roberts.

The Stan Russell Quartet will be performing on July 21 and the McClay Experience will round out the month with a concert on July 28.

As of press time the August concerts had not yet been confirmed.

Roberts is confident the line-up offers a wide range of music to suit everyone's tastes.

"We've country, we've got jazz and we've got some good old time rock and roll," she said. "That was one of the goals, to have that variety."

New this year the organizing committee has created a rain policy, stipulating all concerts will go ahead unless there are poor weather conditions right at 7 p.m.

"Unless we physically can't set-up the sound system, which we do around 5:30 p.m.," said Roberts.

The series was able to get started last year with the help of corporate sponsorships as well as a grant from the Haliburton County Development Corporation.

A partnership between the Rotary Club and the Haliburton County Folk Society was formed and the music soon followed.

"It wasn't brought forward as a fundraising thing … it was brought forward just to have live, quality music offered for everybody," said Roberts.

This year the series will have even more sponsors, which helps offset advertising costs. All performers are paid for their time, helping to support local musicians.

Last year's series brought in a small surplus, which helped get the ball rolling for this year, said Roberts.

The committee is hoping the concerts provide an economic spinoff for downtown businesses and has coincided the series with BIA promotions and the ever popular Haliburton County Farmers' Market, which takes place Tuesday afternoons in the park.

Roberts was pleased with how the first year of the series went and is only optimistic about what this summer will bring.

She sums it up by quoting the sentiment she shared in her HCDC grant application.

"There's something magical about sitting in your lawn chair, watching the summer sunsets, surrounded by others while enjoying great music."

Join your neighbours on Tuesdays for Music in the Park in Haliburton Village starting July 7. Local musicians including the McClay Experience, the Stan Russell Quartet, Highland Swing Band and more will keep your toes tapping all summer.

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Avoiding bear encounters

Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police are reminding people to take simple precautions this spring to prevent attracting black bears as they come out of hibernation.

The potential for human-bear conflict increases when there is little natural food available for bears. If this happens, black bears will search for other food sources, such as garbage and bird feed, which can draw bears to populated areas.

Follow these simple instructions to minimize the chances of attracting bears:

- Store garbage in waste containers with tight-fitting lids.
- Put away bird feeders. Seed, suet and nectar also attract bears.
- Pick fruits and berries as they ripen – don't let them rot on the ground.
- Clean outdoor barbecue grills after each use, including the grease trap underneath. Bears will be drawn by smells from great distances, including grease and food residue on grills.
- Keep dogs on leash; sometimes bears will follow off-leash dogs back to you.

Bears entering a populated area are only a danger if they pose an immediate threat to your personal safety or that of the general public.

Since 2004, Ontario's Bear Wise program has been educating people about bears, how to avoid attracting bears and how to prevent human-bear conflicts.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and OPP have agreed on the roles and responsibilities for both organizations to help the public understand which organization to contact when they encounter a bear.

If a bear is posing an immediate threat to public safety by exhibiting threatening or aggressive behaviour, call 911 or your local police.

At the request of police, during daylight hours the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry will respond to emergency situations to assist.

For non-emergencies, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry operates the toll-free, 24/7 Bear Reporting Line (1-866-514-2327) and the Bear Wise website (ontario.ca/bearwise) to provide the public with information and advice.

Submitted by Haliburton Highlands OPP

A quiet moment on the lake, photo by Laura Smith

Photo by Laura Smith

Bicycle safety prevents trips to ER

Local families are being given a heads up on safety before they ride on their bikes this spring.

While cycling is a great way for families to be active and spend time together, there is also a need to use caution, says Shelley Shaughnessy, a family health nurse with the HKPR District Health Unit.

"Cycling is a leading cause of unintentional injuries that land children under 14 years of age in hospital," she says.

"It's important to realize that while cycling is an excellent way to have fun and be active, we need to create a safe cycling experience for everyone."

Adults should model safe cycling practices, especially for very young children, Shaughnessy adds. As she notes: "Get young children into the habit of wearing a bike helmet, right from the time they start to ride their tricycle or bike with training wheels. Children learn from watching, so adults can be role models to create good cycling habits for the next generation."

Local residents are encouraged to consider the following cycling safety tips:

Protect children's heads by getting them to wear bike helmets on any wheeled item, whether it is a bike, scooter or skateboard. A properly-fitted and correctly-worn bike helmet can make a dramatic difference, cutting the risk of serious head injuries by up to 80 per cent (Parachute Canada). To ensure a child's helmet fits right, follow the "2V1 Rule." A helmet should be two-fingers' width above a child's eyebrow; straps should form a V under a child's ears; and one finger should fit between the helmet strap and child's chin.

Check the ride. For children, a fun, safe cycling experience starts with a properly-equipped bike. Ensure bikes are adjusted to the recommended height for the rider, tires are inflated and brakes are working properly. Bikes should also have proper reflectors and lights.

Supervise children under the age of nine years. Because young children do not yet have the cognitive ability to judge distance and the speed of traffic, they should be supervised by an adult when riding a bicycle.

Stick to sidewalks. Sidewalks are the best place for young children to ride their bikes. For youth over 14 years of age, designated cycling lanes are the best place for riding.

Be prepared. Use appropriate hand signals and obey traffic signs. Training in bicycle safety can also help. Cycling Canada's CAN-BIKE program (www.cycletransitions.org/education) offers courses for all ages.

Make the right choice. Tell children who are old enough to ride on the road to stick to the right – the same direction as traffic is going – and stay as far right as possible.

Use your bell. Ensure bikes are equipped with a bell to announce when passing. If not, use your voice.

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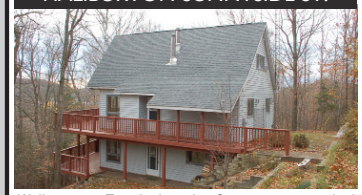

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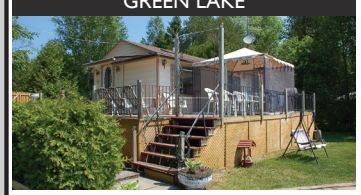

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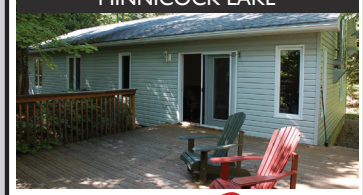

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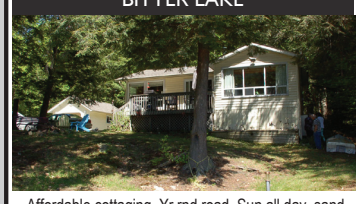

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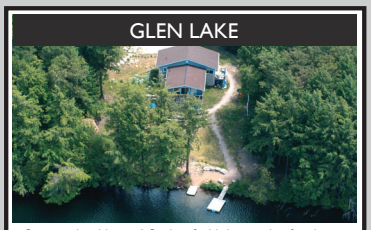
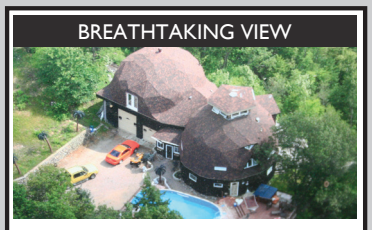


Cottage in ski area! Spring fed lake - quiet & private. Sunset exposure. Fully furnished & move in ready.
$433,000

OTTER LAKE TRANQUILITY

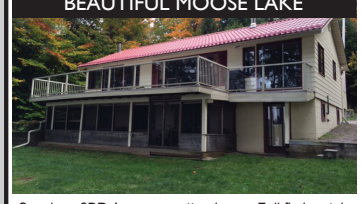
4 Season Royal Home/Cottage. 8.84 acres, 379 Ft. FRTG on a no motor lake. 3+2 BR. Open Concept, Fireplace,Large Windows, Spacious Deck.
$439,900

BREATHTAKING VIEW



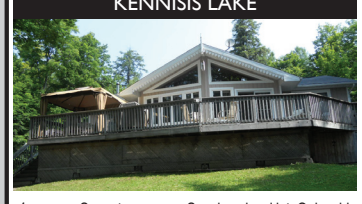
Unique & fun architecture. Custom spacious multi-level 4BR. Panoramic views in observatory off the master! Att dbl grg & det 3car grg. All on nearly 5 ac.
$469,000

BEAUTIFUL MOOSE LAKE



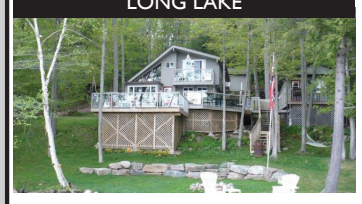
Spacious 3BR 4 season cott or home. Full fin bsmt, lg screen porch, sundeck w/glass panels, wood FP. Level lot, great shoreline, dbl garage & more! Watch sunsets from the dock.
$485,000

KENNISIS LAKE



4 season. Sunset exposure. Spacious level lot. Oak cabinetry, B/I appliances, cathedral ceiling, 3BR/2Bath. Great shoreline, large dock system.
$495,000

LONG LAKE



1.5 stry cottage & 2BR winterized bunkie. Lakeside sauna, heated garage, Lots of decks & docking. Clean swimming. 2 lake chain.
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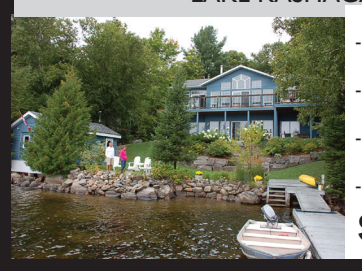

- Attention to details. High quality finishings throughout
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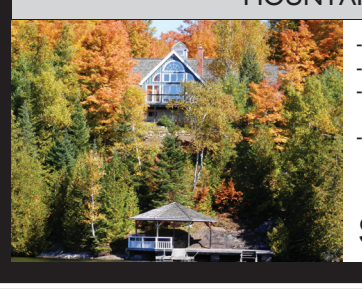

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Citizen science contributes to lake health

By Chad Ingram

There are many ways Haliburton County residents can help monitor the health of their lakes.

A lake stewards water quality training session was hosted by the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations at the Stanhope Firefighters Community Hall on April 25.

About 100 members of various lake associations attended the forum. Split into groups and rotating through a series of five stations, attendees got educated in some citizen science that is helping gauge the health of the community's lakes.

One indicator of a lake's vitality is its population of benthos – tiny, bottom-dwelling invertebrates that assist in filtering lake water.

Chris Jones, a researcher with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, explained that doing benthic testing does require more training than most forms of citizen science.

"We offer training courses," he said, explaining citizens must be certified with the ministry before they can start contributing to research.

Standard courses are three days long.

Sampling includes skimming a lake's bottom with a net, identifying and counting organisms.

"Identifying them takes some time," Jones said. "You have to learn to use biological keys and it's not for everybody. You have to have some spare time. The insects can be a bit of a challenge."

While it's understood that more benthos generally mean a healthier lake, the field is still new enough there are not established targets.

"We are still in the process of categorizing normal levels," Jones said.

Part of why benthic testing is needed is to help determine what those levels are.

Algal blooms – masses of algae that float on a lake's surface – are a growing problem in the province.

"In Ontario, we're seeing the number of algal blooms are increasing over time," Dr. Michelle Palmer, a nutrient and algal monitoring scientist with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, told attendees.

Algal blooms often result from excess nutrients, most typically phosphorous, which gets deposited into watersheds through household cleaning products, fertilizers and human and pet waste. They are harmful not only for causing oxygen depletion in water bodies – eating up oxygen needed by native plants and animals – but can also be toxic.

Two types of algal blooms typical to the area are those comprised of golden-brown and those comprised of blue-green algae.

Golden-brown algal blooms typically occur on low-nutrient lakes and while they don't produce toxins, they do produce a foul odour and can give water an unpleasant taste.

Blue-green algae is much brighter.

"It looks like someone took paint and threw it on the water," Palmer said.

Blue-green algae can be dangerous, producing toxins that can affect the liver and nervous system.

If anyone suspects they may have an algal bloom on their lake, they are asked to call the ministry's spills action centre at 1-800-268-6060.

"For Haliburton County, over the last few years, there's only been two blooms reported," Palmer said, adding the ministry tends not to identify where blooms are found, as it can affect property values.

Anna DeSellas of the Dorset Environmental Science Centre explained the Lake Partners Program, which she co-ordinates.

Started in 1996, the program began as a partnership between the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations and the Lake of the Woods District Property Owners' Association. Since 2002, the MOE has run the program out of the Dorset facility.

"What is your environmental question? What do you need to answer?" DeSellas asked, explaining the program seeks to answer whether phosphorous concentrations are changing over time, as well as identifying the trophic status of lakes.

"Trophic status is just a way of categorizing lakes . . . basically the biomass that's in your lake," DeSellas said.

Most of the lakes in Haliburton County are considered oligotrophic – deep, clear lakes with relatively little vegetation.

The program provides participants with kits of sampling equipment, which include Secchi discs. Secchi discs – named for their inventor – are black and white discs used to measure water transparency. The are lowered into the water until no longer visible, known as the Secchi depth.

Sampling for the program requires using a Secchi disc and taking water samples using a weighted bottle. Bottles needs to be weighted down with two pounds of anchor material, whether it's rocks, marbles, etc.

Ideally, measurements should be taken between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and need to be taken on a regular basis to provide adequate data.

For more information on the Lake Partners Program, email lakepartner@ontario.ca.

Alison Kirkpatrick, who does invasive species monitoring and outreach for the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, gave participants a rundown on the process to follow if they expect an invasive species of plant or animal is in their area.

Creatures such as zebra muscles or Asian carp, or plants such as giant hogweed, have been known to wreak havoc in Ontario. They eat the food or absorb nutrients required by native species.

"They're very adaptable," Kirkpatrick said of successful invasive species.

Anyone who suspects they have found an invasive species is asked to call 1-800-563-771 or email info@invasivespecies.com.

"We want to know so we can pass that information along to the correct people," Kirkpatrick said.

Smartphone application EDDMaps can be used to take and send photos of suspected invasive species. The CHA's science advisor Debbie Balika went over dissolved oxygen testing.

Dissolved oxygen is another indicator of lake health, the optimal level being seven to eight milligrams of dissolved oxygen per litre of water at the bottom of a lake.

"Anything below that, cells don't function properly,"

Turn to page 9

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Tools exist to get precise readings on your lake

Continued from page 8

Balika said. "You've got to do a bit of homework before you go out to do your dissolved oxygen."

Because the electronic monitoring equipment used has a length of 30 metres, citizen scientists must find an area of their lake that is 30 metres deep, as getting a reading from the bottom is crucial.

Readings are taken at metre intervals, starting at 10 centimetres below the surface.

Maxim Environmental will rent dissolved oxygen meters at $119 for a week's use.

"Some lake associations don't have a lot of money," Balika said, suggesting finding a buddy association to team up and share costs with.

While the meters do store data, "always keep a paper copy as well," Balika cautioned, adding that data should be recorded in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet for consistency's sake "The idea is that we want to share data, on par, with MOE and MNR."

Chaired by Paul MacInnes of the Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners' Association, the CHA was founded in 2009.

It has grown from a membership of 23 lake association to 100 during that time.

For more information about the CHA, visit www.cohpoa.org

Anna DeSellas of the Dorset Environmental Science Centre talks about the Lake Partners Program during a lake stewards training session the CHA hosted in Stanhope in late April.

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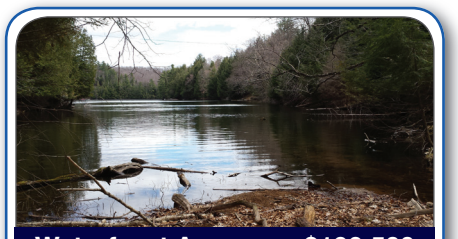

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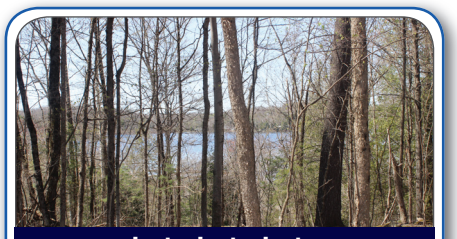

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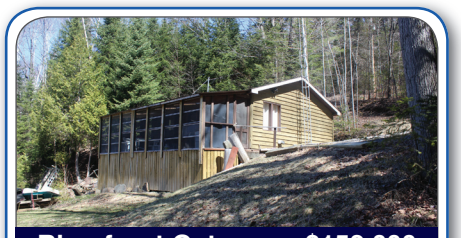

Riverfront Getaway - $152,000

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-Just listed! Modern open concept design, nicely landscaped one acre lot.
-Gorgeous kitchen, hardwood flooring throughout, propane fireplace.
-Two car attached and oversized garage/workshop, full walkout basement.
-Three bedrooms, two baths including ensuite, large decks and much more!

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Kushog Lake $ 424,900

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- 3 Bedroom, Full Bath and Laundry
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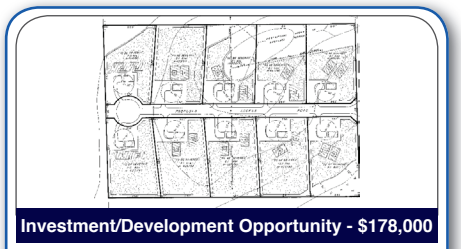

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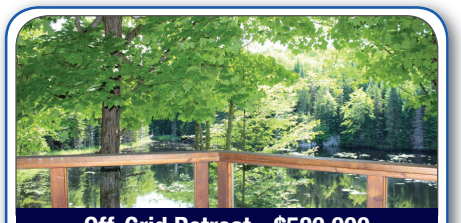

Off-Grid Retreat - $580,000

-Pure Privacy on 50 acres backing onto Crown Land
-Beautiful 3,000 sq. ft. home, large windows, skylights, all facing beautiful Blue Heron Pond
- Sun-tracking Solar Panels, seasonal water turbine, extremely efficient home
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- Boat launch for Kushog lake close by. Superb year round home or vacation getaway.

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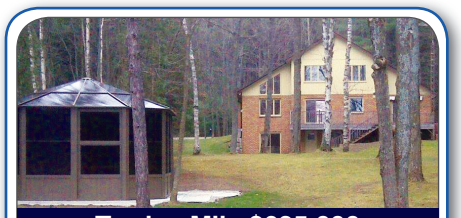

Twelve Mile $635,000

- Immaculate Waterfront Home, 2400 SQ FT, 3BR, 4Bath.
- Beautiful Chef's kitchen, Master Bedroom with W/I Closet and Ensuite
- Bathroom. Municipal road, Level lot, Gorgeous Sand Beach,
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- Set back against the forest – surrounded by Crown Land!
- Lovely full-length porch to enjoy the evenings
- Large kitchen, dining and living area for all the family/friends

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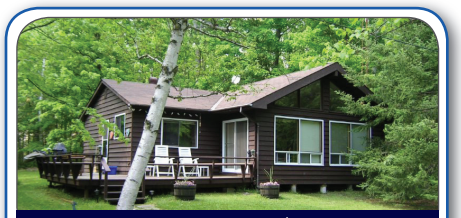

Mountain Lake – $369,900

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-Level lot with shallow entry perfect for the young family.

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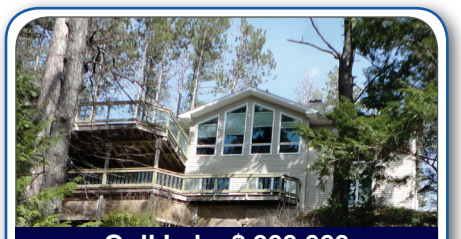

Gull Lake $ 999,999

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- Attached Double Garage

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Tweleve Mile Lake $675,000

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- Large, Bright Walkout Basement
- Oversized Garage

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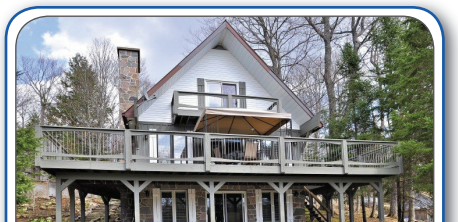

Twelve Mile Lake – $689,500

-Premium signature property on a pristine three lake chain. Must be seen.
-Beautifully landscaped and nicely treed lakefront home/vacation cottage.
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Mountain Lake $459,500

- Being listed soon on the MLS system. A must see! Two lake chain.
-165 feet of great waterfront with a superb big lake view.
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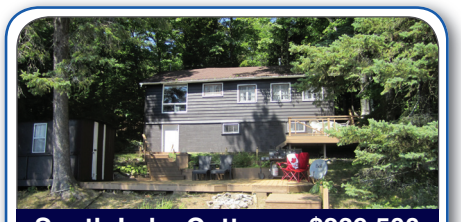

South Lake Cottage - $239,500

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- 3-season cottage with 3 bdrms., 1 bath
- Renovated kitchen/bathroom
- Great decking with sand beach for outdoor entertaining

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-Stunning kitchen, sunroom, vaulted ceiling, open concept, walkout basement.
-Three baths, propane heating, two decks. Boat launch nearby.
A must see!

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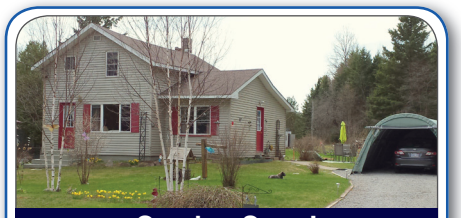

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Singularly beautiful spring blooms

by Belinda Gallagher

The flowers of late winter and early spring occupy places in our hearts well out of proportion to their size. ~Gertrude S. Wister, horticulturalist and author

While wandering around the garden last week, it occurred to me that Ms. Wister's words were particularly appropriate this year. The tiniest of winter aconites and snow drops had me bent nose-to-ground admiring their subtle beauty against the winter-worn soil. The blooms, dotted here and there throughout the landscape, were hardly what you'd call a drift of colour. Actually, they were more like sprinkles on an ice cream cone, but the effect was sublime.

I know that there are writers who wax on about the drifts of English bluebells and who can forget Wordsworth's "host of golden daffodils"? But, at this time of the year, I like to focus on the intricacy of the single blooms. Early spring sunshine illuminates the hues and a drop of rain or melted snow outlines the graceful shapes.

A case in point is the minor bulb, *Puschkinia sp.* named after the Russian botanist and chemist, Apollos Mussin-Pushkin. Native to the mountain meadows and stony slopes of the Caucasus Mountains and parts of the Middle East, this little spring flower is happy in the rockery. Close-up, you can see the most remarkable blue stripe on a background of white that gives it the common name of striped squill. Oddly enough, the plant is a close cousin to asparagus – but don't eat it!

Our monumental effort of planting daffodils over the last four years is now paying off. Hundreds of leaf clusters punctuate the borders signalling things to come. The first of the narcissus (the botanical family of daffodils and narcissus) will open shortly. It is called "February Gold" and was first registered way back in 1923. Despite its name, it blooms in late April and is the kick-off for the six week long daffodil season. I like this one, and the scores of others but have to admit my favourite of last year was "Golden Ducat", a nice early May blooming double form. It displayed many shades of yellow with just a designer hint of green.

Tulips, introduced to Holland in the mid 17th century from Turkey, are the epitome of beautiful blooms. Dutch painters included tulips in their still life works and many similar types can be purchased for today's gardens. Two tempting cultivars that display wonderful colour and a mastery of form are the double, early "Monsella", a striking yellow with flame red marks and the award winning "Rococo", a parrot tulip with unusual purple and green feathering on a cardinal-red background.

In all honesty, after a long winter, I think each blossom is singularly beautiful. Well, at least until the dandelions appear.

Pictured above is a Golden Ducat. At left is a Pushkinia. A Tulip Rococo. and a Tulip Monsella are at bottom.

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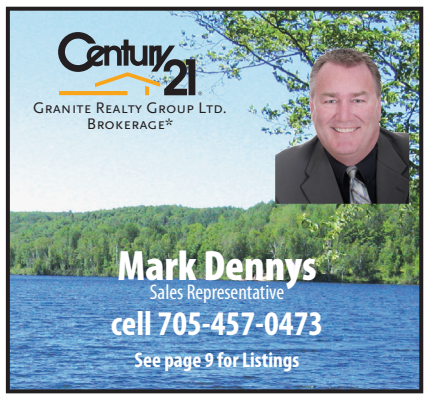
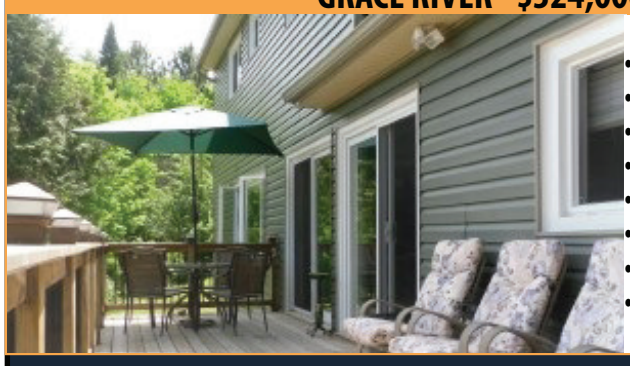


GRACE RIVER - $324,000.



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- Open Concept Interior
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- Lots of Green-space for children
- Lakeside Boathouse, Garages

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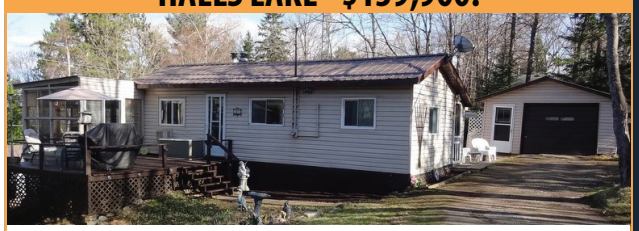

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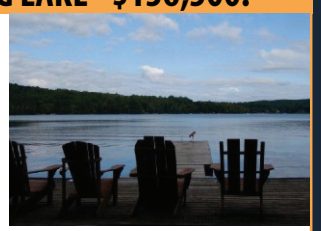
KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE - $136,500.



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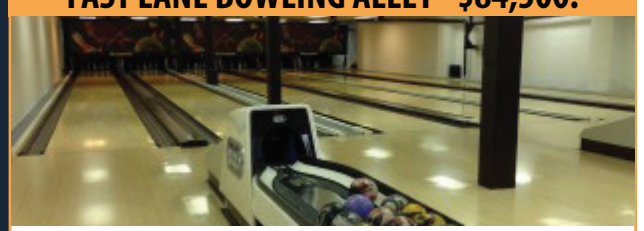

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View **all area listings** at **melaniehevesi.com**

If Queen Vicky could see us now!

Maybelle's **Fireside stories**

Why if the May two-four weekend isn't here again filling Lake WhaddyathinkImean with cottagers, giddy as kids, opening their homes away from home after a lonnnnng cold winter, for a great summer ahead, don'tcha know. And with an extra day to boot to clean out those cobwebs, hook up the water, put in the docks, and do the ol' meet and greet with friends and neighbours at the annual barbeque or potluck schmooze-fest.

And all this, thanks to Queen Alexandria Victoria for being born on May the 18th, and the good folks, whoever they may be, for making her birthday a statutory holiday. Oh yeaaaaa!

Now, can you imagine if Queen Vicky could see us now? Why there she'd be surrounded by her nine children all decked out in their heavy silks, satins, pearls and fine leathers…and us in our tank tops, short pants and flip flops chugging back lemonade and homemade egg salad. Why, I'm thinking her eyes would pop…but a CONTROLLED kinda pop, being a royal and all.

Why, did you know that Queen Victoria's reign was 63 years and seven months long? That's longer than any other British monarch and the longest of any female monarch in history. And, if she didn't inherit the throne when she was only 18.

Imagine that. The only thing ol' Maybelle inherited when I was 18 was teenage acne. Ran in our bloodline which made me ROYALLY peeved. But, not for long.

When summer came, so did all the wonders of lakeside living. Why I was so happy swimming, tubing, fishing with my pals, and watching the garden grow from seed to hearty vegetables fit for a queen…that by winter my skin was smooth as butter. Funny, how happy times can influence our her-mones.

I know Twindle Mumbly's got plans for the long weekend. So does Vilma Yuccch, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom, Beanpole Starkman and Sybil Beaucannon Hughes, along with yours truly. We're all pitching in at the Lake WhaddyathinkIman Welcome Back Cottagers Legion dinner. We figure they're going to be so pooped after opening their cottages and breathing in all of that fresh country air that we're going to spoil them with the best homemade fixings we can muster.

And, if Twindle's twin brother, Stix Tooya and his band, Gastritis, aren't going to entertain us. Why, Sybil's still trying to quiet her heart from the last time she saw Stix drumming and shaking his head like he still had hair on it, don'tcha know.

Oh, the traffic will be keen in our two-block long downtown. Why with the swelling of our population this weekend, it's likely to take a full five minutes to get across town!

I'm looking forward to seeing Melvin and Shirley Birnbaum and their six kidney beans again. What a fun family they are. And, boy can Shirley cook up food that's so gourmet and delish I don't even know what I'm eating. And how we love Tuesdays throughout the summer! It's our special time to go to The IncrEdible Haliburton County Farmers' Market in Haliburton village, don'tcha know.

Why, there are baked goods, meats and sausages, cheeses, jams and jellies, seedlings and flowers, and handmade jewelry all from local farms and food producers, bakers, and artisans. And it's so pretty with the lake and boats going by as our backdrop.

What's that Bogart? (Bogart's my pet bear, don'tcha know). Power up your thought/voice synthesizer cap, Bogart, so I can hear what you're thinking.

Mama Maybelle, is it true that Queen Victoria married her first cousin, Albert, and her nine kids married into royal families across the continent?

Yes, dear. (Bogart's a smarty-pantser. Google tells him everything).

That's how she earned the title of "the grandmother of Europe."

Well, if she were here today, I'd invite her to the legion dinner.

You would, would you?

Oh yes. And we'd have a great big birthday cake for her…with 204 candles.

What a lovely idea, Bogart. I guess you'd also be inviting the Lake WhaddyathinkImean Volunteer Firefighters' brigade.

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. Jerelyn's novel, Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon, *is available at amazon.com*

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Library knows how garden grows

Erin's Editions

Erin Kernohan-Berning
Branch Services Librarian

While the end of winter never seems to come soon enough, this year spring's cantankerous sibling seemed to take even longer giving up its seasonal turn. Now that winter has finally released its grip, it's time to take advantage of that all too short period of warm temperatures and few biting insects to get our gardens going – even if the compost pile is still a little frozen.

I would not by any means consider myself a seasoned gardener, or even a good one. This is the first year that I've had a yard of my own to tend, and I find myself watching with curiosity as all sort of unidentified plants start poking up through the soil, and pruning older perennials with great trepidation. Heck, I still mix up what is an annual and what is a perennial. All sorts of questions plague a beginning gardener like me: Watering, how much is too much? How do I know if my soil is any good? Is it a plant or a weed? Can I eat it? When should I plant this? When should I plant that?

We have a great database for those who like to search for things online. Even I ask the oracle of Google when I'm stumped, but it can be hard to sift through the many conflicting perspectives and strong opinions offered online by the myriad of self-declared experts. When I'm looking for more in-depth information from a source I can count on, I head over to our Gale Gardening, Landscape and Horticulture Database. You can find it on our website at haliburtonlibrary.ca, click on Online Research, then Gale Cengage Learning. You'll find a huge list of very useful databases, including Gardening, Landscape and Horticulture. You can search for anything here, and you will get answers from hundreds of publications such as *Flower & Garden Magazine, Country Living, Horticulture Week,* and *Journal of the Bromeliad Society*.

If you're browsing the shelves for gardening books, head over to the nonfiction section of any of our branches. Under the Dewey Decimal System, the subject of gardening is split between two fairly broad categories: 635 which is Technology > Agriculture > Garden Crops (horticulture) and the 710s which is the Landscape Architecture section under Arts and Recreation. So, if you are looking in any of our branches for gardening books, you will find them in these clumps in the nonfiction section. But, like any hardy plant you'll likely find the odd surprise one in an unexpected place. You can also go to haliburtonlibrary.ca and search for "gardening," or ask any of our branch staff – some of whom are avid gardeners themselves!

Finally, make sure you pay a visit to the Haliburton Seed Library located in the Dysart branch. You can take seeds that people have saved from successful plantings, everything from vegetables to flowers. There is also literature on saving seeds so you can bring back seeds for others to take. So welcome spring and say goodbye to winter by getting outside and doing some gardening – if I can make stuff grow with the help of some useful resources, anyone can!

School of the Arts offers bevy of new courses this summer

By Jenn Watt

True to form, Haliburton School of the Arts has an eclectic collection of workshops and classes to interest people young and old, experienced and novices in their summer line-up.

From 3D printing to soul collage, willow weaving to lingerie making, the college has something for everyone.

"Part of what I find exciting and that we get positive feedback about is the diversity of the program," says Shelley Schell, co-ordinator of HSTA part-time programming.

Each week during the summer, there's an offering for kids ages four to nine, something for youth and teens and of course adult classes. Schell says she regularly sees grandparents signing up for a course and bringing their grandchildren in with them for their own classes.

Kids' classes run half days and many who are enrolled in the morning session also choose to do a second afternoon session as well.

The school is diverse not only in course subject, but also in techniques and media.

For example, those interested in painting can take one of Al Van Mil's courses: Passionate Colour, Passionate Paint I and Passionate Paint II about tints, colours and shades.

"He's taught for us for many, many years," says Schell. Al and his wife Annette are Toronto-based artists who came to the Highlands so often they bought a cottage on Miskwabi Lake.

"It's really around learning how to express your passion in the visual language of paint," says Schell.

On the other side of the spectrum is Lingerie and Foundation Wear, taught by Don Colvin, which instructs people how to make their own bras.

Colvin is credited with inventing the sports bra and has spent the last 20 years running his own arts and crafts school called The Academy of Artisans.

Schell said the college offered the Lingerie course several years ago and it was populated largely by students who wanted to learn to make their own undergarments.

On the musical side of things, those who frequent folk society events will recognize some familiar names. October Browne will be teaching Music – Campfire and Beyond, while Wendell Ferguson takes on Guitar – Musicality and Performance.

"The organizers [of Winter Folk Camp] give me a heads up about an instructor who would work well with the summer school," says Schell. "That's been a nice relationship."

Browne plays a range of instruments from mandolin to bodhran and has released four CDs.

Ferguson is an inductee of the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame and has won a long list of awards as a guitarist including six CCMA awards for Guitar Player of the Year.

HSTA summer students tend to keep coming back. Each year the college surveys its students to learn more about them. Last year, 68 per cent reported they had taken a course at HSTA before.

More than 300 courses are offered this summer. Find out more at hsta.ca or call (705) 457-1680.

In this file photo from last summer, Terry Shaw paints the metal component of her piece, Moose Magic, that she created during the six-day program through the Fleming College Haliburton School of the Arts. Shaw, who cottages in Minden, has attended a number of HSTA courses over the past few years, including chainsaw sculpting and one where she made a six foot long, four and a half foot tall cement dragon. /ZACHARY COX

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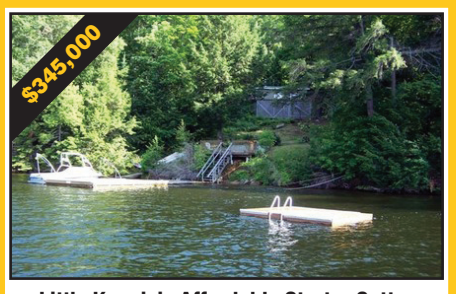

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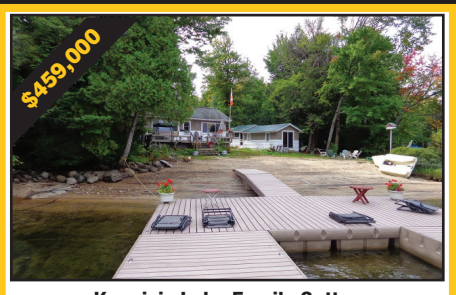

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Kennisis -161 ft –Point Lot
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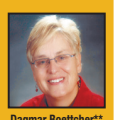

Dagmar Boettcher**
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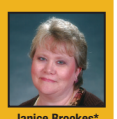

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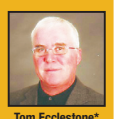

Tom Ecclestone*
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Lee Gauthier**
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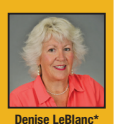
Ed Gibbons*
286-2138 x 28

Andrew Hodgson***
286-2138 x 29

Susanne James*
& Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 33



Denise LeBlanc*
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Haliburton Lake $569,000

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- Lakeside patio allows hours of waterfront enjoyment. Situated on a township road access and many recent upgrades.
- Contact Drew Bishop to preview.

Drew Bishop 457-2128 x 23

Vacant Lot $27,900

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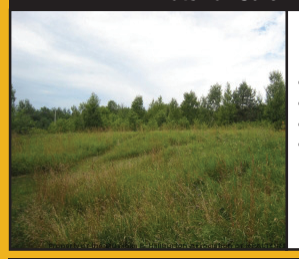
- Driveway installed and site cleared
- Flat lot and driveway
- Year round municipal road

Dagmar Boettcher 489-9968

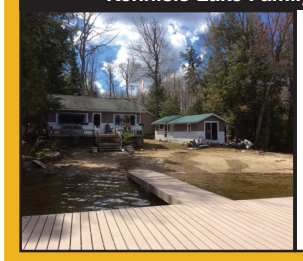
Lots for Sale in Haliburton!



- $68,900 - Haliburton by the Lake*
- $70,000 - Dean Crt-Riverside Drive
- $37,900 - Lakeview St.
- *Picture shown for this property

Janice Brookes 457-2128 x 22

Kennisis Lake Family Cottage $459,000



- Sand To Deep Water, Sun Rise And Sets, Level
- Lg Dock, Garage, Guest Cabin, Fire Pit
- 3 Bdrm, Wood Fireplace, Pine Interior
- View!!, Privacy, High Speed Internet

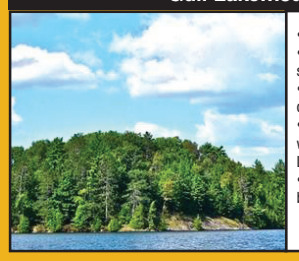
Gloria Carnochan 754-1932

Beautiful Eagle Lake $389,900

- 120 Ft Water Frontage, .83 acres
- Approx 930 Sq Ft, 3 Brdm , 3 Pc Bath
- Cathedral Pine Ceilings, Turn-key
- Level Lot, Private Sandy Beach, Close to Sir Sam's Ski Hill

Mark Dennys 457-2128 x 30

Gull Lake...Just Imagine



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- Call me for additional information, then let's book a boat ride

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138 x 26

Halls Lake $499,000

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- Outstanding Home or Cottage
- 2500 sq.ft. quality living space
- 4 bdrms/2 bathrooms
- Sunroom & 50 ft Deck
- Garage + Bunkie
- Outstanding view/deep water

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

Beautiful Little Hawk Lake $189,900

- One of the original water access cottages
- Rustic hand hewn cottage; West exposure
- Spectacular deck with amazing views
- Typical Algonquin-style lot; mature hemlocks

Ed Gibbons 286-2138 x 28

Turn Key Cottage $379,000

NEW LISTING

- 115 Feet of frontage on beautiful Twelve Mile Lake
- Easy access, level lot and clean sandy shoreline with shallow entry
- Lovely 3 season cottage, 4 bedrooms, all furnishings included
- Open concept living space, large deck with big lake view

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138 x 29

Koshlong Lake Area $79,900

- 29+ acres near Koshlong Lake
- Abuts road allowance to lake
- Part commercial zoning
- Year round access

Susanne James & Andy Mosher
457-2128 x 33

Twelve Mile Lake $499,000

- Large well-appointed home or cottage
- 3 Plus bedrooms, 3 washrooms & cathedral ceilings
- Double attached garage and separate shop
- Full finished basement, room for everyone!

Denise LeBlanc 286-2138 x 23

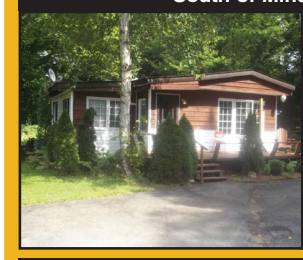
Davis Lake $279,900

SOLD

- Spacious open concept year round cottage
- Sits on a private child friendly lot with a great sand shoreline and newer dock
- 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 have double bunks and the large Bunkie has the same
- Perfect if you're looking for a quality cottage on a quality lake!

David Lee 286-2138 x 27

South of Minden $114,900



- Well maintained home in quiet community
- Newly shingled roof in 2012, bright kitchen
- 3 bdrms, laundry room, woodstove, office
- Loads of space, private yard

Erin Nicholls 457-2128 x 34

Discover County Living $297,000

SOLD

- 4 Season Country Getaway-Family Home-Artist Studio
- 2000+ sq. foot multi-level floor plan, complimented with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Entertaining area, family room & office, caters to your family's everyday needs
- Double car garage, finish as guest quarters, workshop or Studio

Karen Nimigon 457-2128 x 29

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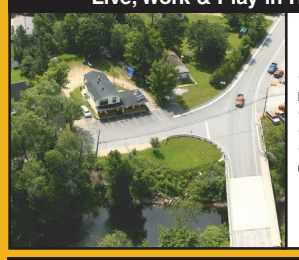
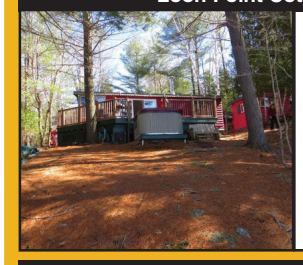


- Well established fully licensed restaurant
- Prime location; operates year round
- Spacious 3 bedroom apartment
- Call Margie or Tom Ecclestone for details

Margie Prestwich 705-306-0491

Loon Point Cottage $314,995



- 235 Feet of frontage on Tamarack Lake, very private w/ lovely shoreline
- Charming cottage with open concept living area, woodstove & skylights
- 3 bedrooms plus 1 bedroom bunkie with sleeping loft
- Comes complete with a workshop and Tiki bar right at the lake!

Greg Stamp 457-2128 x 28

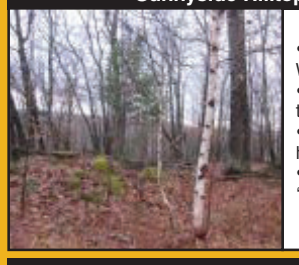
Sensational Soyers Lake! $599,000

NEW LISTING

- 125 feet frontage, southern exposure
- Private and natural lot, mature trees
- Contemporary open concept cottage
- 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, stone fireplace

Kim Stamp 457-2128 x 24

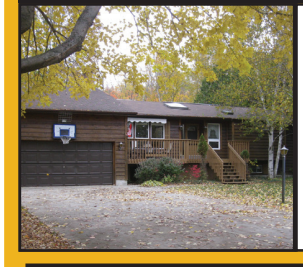
Sunnyside Hilltop Lot $68,500



- Scenic hilltop views over Haliburton Village
- Multi-exposure 1.5 acre residential lot
- Private setting in area of finer homes
- Well-maintained Township road - a "Must-Buy!"

Elizabeth Thompson 457-2128 x 52

Maple Lake $469,900



- Spacious 3 Bedroom/3 Bath Home
- Hardwoods, Propane Fireplaces, Oak Kitchen
- Full Finished Basement, Attached Dbl. Garage
- Southern Exposure, Sand Beach, Extensive Decking

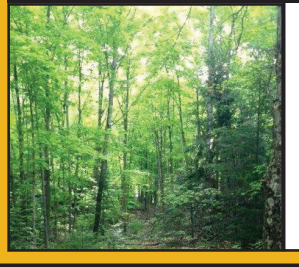
Melanie Vigrass 286-2138 x 32

Cameron Lake Building Lots

- 3 lots to choose from starting at $125,000
- Good privacy with up to 182 ft frontage
- Year round access
- Quiet clean lake

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138 x 25

Close to Ski Hill $34,500



- Building lot in Eagle Lake Area
- 1.37 acres with frontage on 2 municipal roads
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- Public beach, shopping & restaurants nearby

Andrea Wilson 457-2128 x 25

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Light Refreshments & Prizes

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A Foundation for the Health of the Highlands

For Info: Carol Patrick, TD Canada Trust, 705-286-1300 - ext. 250
Dale Walker, HHHS Foundation, 705-457-1580/286-1580

We are pleased to announce Haliburton Highlands Golf Course will be opening for the long weekend on

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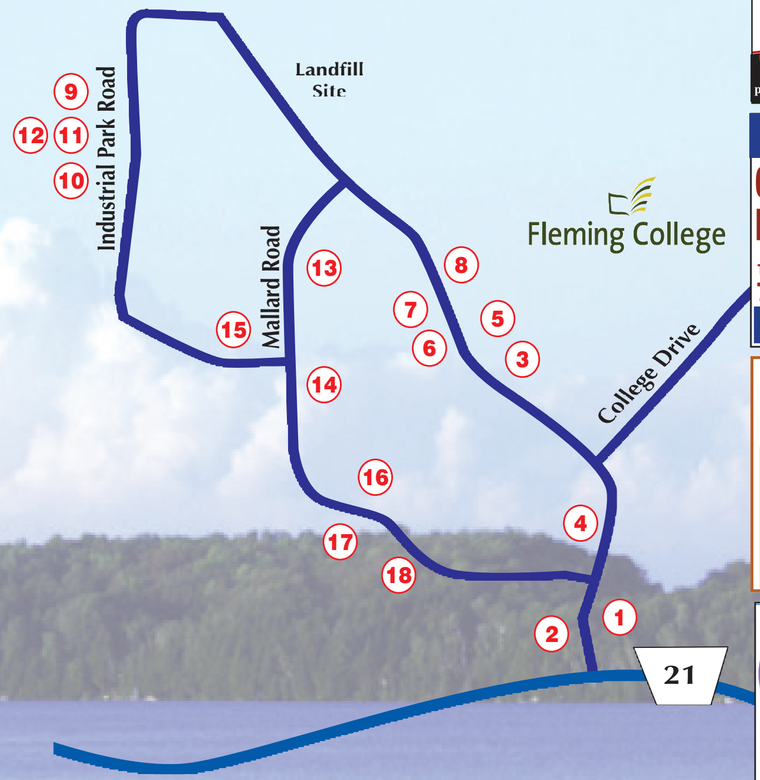
What Industrial Road in Haliburton has to Offer!



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Drawing the line on duck hunting

Greg Cholkan

The Law Talkin' Guy

File this one under "Hilarious Old-Timey Cases". The year is 1942. Joe Louis KO's Buddy Baer to retain the World Heavyweight Title. Henry Ford patents a method of constructing plastic auto bodies. Ted Williams wins baseball's elusive Triple Crown. And, despite an ongoing world war, duck hunting continues its popularity in the township of Dover, near Chatham, Ontario.

A group of hunters find a perfect spot. Unfortunately, it's on private property. They find a loophole, however – or so they think. There are road allowances on the land that are public property. So long as they stick to these long, thin strips of land, they're good, right? Here's what the judge had to say:

The hunters have at times "during the past few years, and in particular in the month of October 1942, entered upon the owner's lands, and more particularly have constructed 'hides' on or about the road allowances between concessions eight and nine and ten and eleven, and from such 'hides' they have shot duck."

"While admitting this fact, the hunters vigorously deny that they at any time shot duck over or upon the lands of the owner, but say that with great self-discipline and restraint they confined all of their shooting to duck which were solely upon the waters covering the road allowances in question, or in the air directly over the road allowances."

"Even when the duck were in flight, the hunters so rigorously observed and respected the owner's property rights that they would abstain from shooting at any duck which might fall beyond the imaginary line separating the undefined road allowances from the lands of the owner."

"In fact, if the evidence of the various hunters is to be accepted (and may I say that acceptance of it would strain one's credulity), these hunters in their duck-hunting activities displayed such self-restraint and self-disciplined control as might well be the envy of, and would in fact be almost unparalleled in, even the most seasoned members of the armed forces."

And "while using dogs to retrieve birds which were brought down, the hunters, according to their testimony, did not even permit such dogs to pass the undefined boundary and enter the owner's lands for the purpose of retrieving the result of an expert shot."

In short: the hunters' testimony is a bunch of baloney. The judge's honesty, blunt language, and sense of humour are particularly refreshing coming from someone whose profession often takes itself far too seriously.

Greg Cholkan is a lawyer, fisherman and Hemingway impersonator. He works in Huntsville and Haliburton with Barriston LLP and his practice focuses on real estate, wills and estates, and corporate matters. Follow him on Twitter: @gregcholkan

10 convincing reasons to buy a boat

Living Large

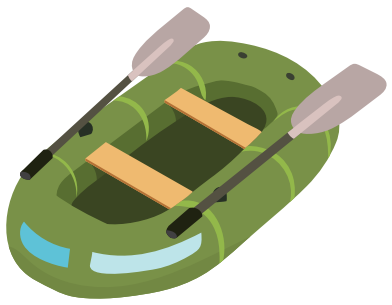
Humour by Steve Galea

If you are going to live or spend time in cottage country, you need to eventually convince your spouse you need a new boat.

Believe it or not, this can be difficult. Some spouses will actually point out to the canoe, kayak, paddle boat, tin boat with 9.9, bass boat, duck boat, pontoon boat, rubber raft, dingy, jet ski, wake board boat, and yacht as evidence that you have more than enough boats. This makes asking for permission to buy the aircraft carrier more difficult than it should be.

Luckily, there are at least 10 ways to rationalize a new boat purchase.

1. It's true, everyone else on the lake has a submarine. You just don't see them because they're always underwater.
2. The forecast calls for rain for the next 40 days and 40 nights, so this Ark isn't a frivolous purchase…
3. Look, if we had an aircraft carrier, we wouldn't ever have to worry about Canada geese on our beach again.
4. I know we've got a sail boat, but this one is on the dime!
5. If we got that sculling boat, we could sell your rowing machine.
6. This canoe is made of Kevlar, which means those long portages will be a piece of cake for you….OK, put the paddle down.
7. I know it's got a huge outboard but there are times you need to go from one end of our pond to the other fast.
8. I'll admit, I'm not sure what the fishing regulations say about a fishing trawler but the price was right…
9. Yes, it's a battleship. You'd rather have a destroyer?
10. But honey, ever since Lord of the Rings, dragon boats are all the rage!



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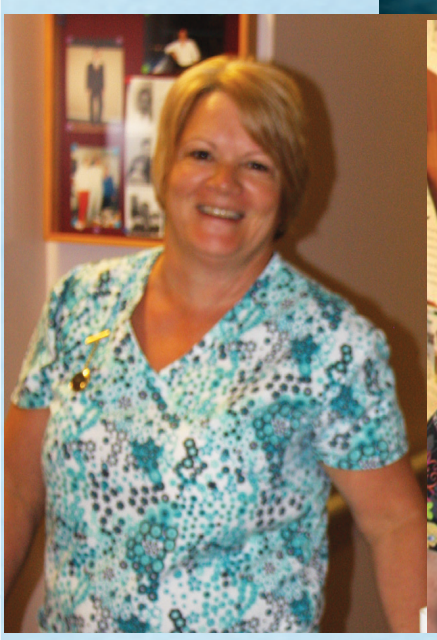

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AUGUST 8 @ 7:30pm (Reception @ 6pm)
Abbey Gardens | Haliburton
Popular arias and ensembles from the Operatic repertoire with orchestral accompaniment under the big tent.

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JULY 30, 31 & AUGUST 1 @ 7pm
St George's Anglican Church | Haliburton
Meet the singers of HOS 2015 and hear them work with Canadian international opera star, Richard Margison.

CONCERTS
THE ART OF SONG
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St George's Anglican Church | Haliburton
Song repertoire from around the world and through the ages.

FROM OPERA TO BROADWAY
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St George's Anglican Church | Haliburton
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AUGUST 19 & 21 @ 8pm
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A Canadian Opera by Tobin Stokes, set on Pelee Island, and partly based on a First Nations myth, along with another ancient tale.

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Honouring history
Haliburton County Historical Society's director Margo Beer, front left, and president Larry Giles stand with Haliburton Homeware owner Jerry Walker, back left and his wife Dale Walker under the new Prust Building sign on the official re-opening day at the Highland Street location on Friday, May 8. The society paid for the commemorative sign to recognize the historical significance of the building built by William Prust (1846 - 1927), which was used as a furniture and shoe making store, but also was home to Dysart council for meetings from 1885 to 1897 when the Lucas Building burned down in a fire in 1895. Prust was a municipal clerk for Dysart between 1883 to 1908. DARREN LUM Staff

Read back issues of County Life at mindentimes.ca or haliburtonecho.ca

HIGHLANDS LITTLE THEATRE
a proud member of the Haliburton Community Co-op

Announces A
CREATIVITY CALL

HLT is the proud host of this year's Eastern Ontario Drama League (EODL) One-Act Festival. We are now preparing our entry for the festival. As such, we are putting out a creativity call for scripts (original or published) of any genre, with a running time between 25 minutes and 60 minutes.

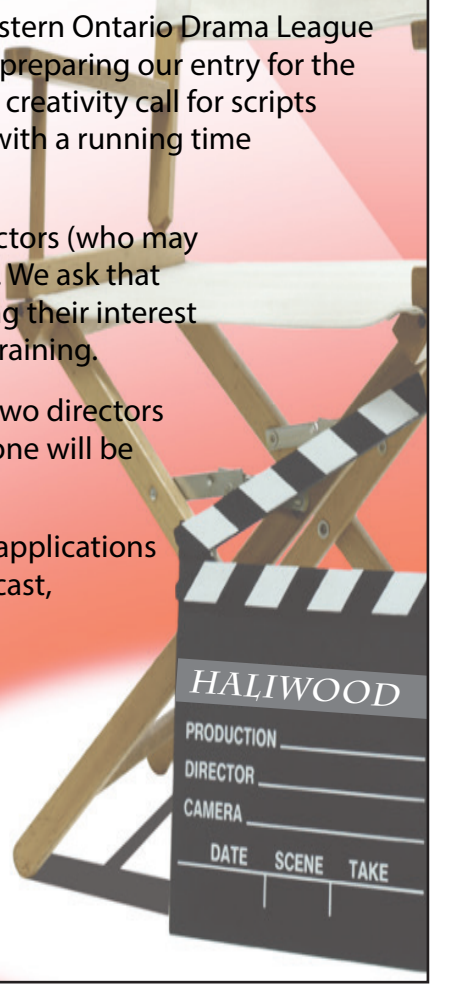
We are also putting out a call for directors (who may submit the script they wish to direct). We ask that directors apply with a letter explaining their interest and a resumé of past experince and training.

We will be selecting two scripts and two directors for this project. Of the two selected, one will be the festival entrant.

The deadline for scripts and director applications is June 5, 2015. Both projects will be cast, rehearsed and performed in a venue yet to be determined.

For more information, contact:

April Martin at 705-457-8764
or by e-mail at
creating@highlandstheatrelive.com



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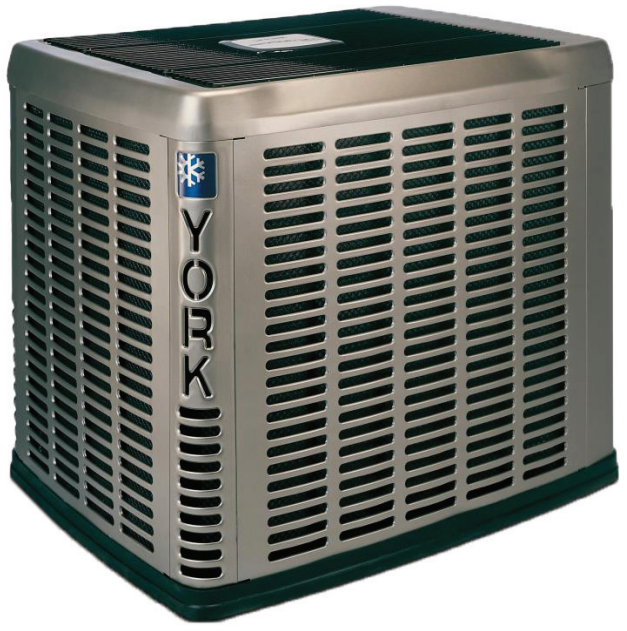

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Kennisis Lake to host Art on the Dock

The Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners' Association is pleased to announce that Art on the Dock, a studio-type tour featuring more than 30 artists and artisans at 20 locations around Kennisis Lake will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, July 11 and 12.

Artists and artisans will be showing (and selling) their fine art and crafts on their docks, decks and in their cottages, lofts and garages from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Visitors are welcome to tour the lake by boat or by road – Art on the Dock signs will designate the exhibitor locations.

Exhibitors include water based painters, painters in oil, potters, photographers, quilters, fine woodworkers, decorative sign painters, mosaic tile workers, soap makers, sculptors, birdhouse makers, song and poetry writers, candle makers and artists in orgonite. Half of the artists are professionals with many talented hobbyists also participating. Noted professional artists include painters Ian Ball, Shelley Beach, Marleen Campbell, Ray Dugan, Tracey Lee Green, Wilf McOstrich, Maurice Snelgrove and Shirley Turchet.

KLCOA president Tony Lepine said, "We are delighted to add this cultural dimension to the social, recreational, environmental and economic initiatives and programs that KLCOA offers its members. The arts are an important part of the Haliburton Highlands community and we have so many talented artists and artisans living and cottaging on our lakes. We are pleased to highlight this creative resource to the community."

Shelley Beach, a professional water based painter and popular instructor at the Haliburton School of Fine Arts, who is one of the exhibitors said, "I am proud to be a part of this wonderful initiative by the KLCOA. It not only stimulates a great sense of community spirit but fosters an awareness and deeper appreciation of the diverse talents of our artisans."

John Middleton, long-time Kennisis cottager and Haliburton resident said, "Pottery has been a passion of mine for over 20 years. I have taken many courses and explored many processes and techniques and have enjoyed sharing my pieces with family and friends. KLCOA Art on the Dock offers an exciting opportunity for hobbyists like me to take the next step forward and share my creative output with the broader community."

Submitted

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UPCOMING
Community Events

PARISH HOME INSPECTIONS

Dated Events

Know What to Expect When You're Expecting
When: Prenatal Classes Start Thursday, April 30, 6-8 pm
Where: Ontario Early Years Centre (83 Maple Ave., Halco Plaza, lower level) in Haliburton Village
Details: Haliburton: Healthy Beginnings - Prenatal Classes Join Family Health Michelle Phillips for this free series of classes that helps expectant parents learn about labour and birth, transition to parenting, caring for baby and breastfeeding. Each participant will also receive a free copy of the Healthy Beginnings pregnancy guidebook. Pre-register by calling (705) 457-1391 or toll-free at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2203.

Yard Sale, Gooderham United Church
When: Saturday May 16, 2015. 8 am to 3 pm.
Where: Gooderham United Church
Details: Light refreshments available. Donated items appreciated. Please, no large appliances, cribs or mattresses. For pick-up or drop-off call June at 447-2838

Pie Sale - Ingoldsby
When: Saturday, May 16th – beginning at 9:00 am
Where: Ingoldsby United Church – 1741 Ingoldsby Road

HHSS PROM Car Wash
When: Sat May 16th from 10-2
Where: Front Parking Lot of HHSS
Details: Cost by Donation
All proceeds to support the 2015 graduating class PROM

Kinmount Farmers Market Open
When: Starting May 16 from 9-2
Where: Kinmount Farmers Market
Details: This weekend the focus is on Fine your inner green. Their will be free cupcakes

Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library
Book & Basket Sale
When: Saturday May 16, 9am. to 3 pm.
Where: Lawn of the Minden Hills Branch Library
Details: For more information contact Linda at 705-457-2064 or email folhaliburtoncounty@gmail.com

This, That & Hats—Edwardian Fashion
When: May 16 –July 27
Where: Minden Hills Museum
Exhibition in the Sterling Bank building consisting of a wide selection of ladies hats, and matching apparel including parasols, handkerchiefs, hair combs, men's hats etc. from the permanent collection. History of Minden in the entrance. www.mindenhills.ca/museum

Meet the Nurse
When:, Thursday, May 21, 10 am to noon
Where: Wilberforce, Lloyd Watson Community Centre (2249 Loop Rd.)
Details: . Parents with children up to age six years can meet with a Public Health Nurse, who can provide breastfeeding support, and discuss infant care, growth and development and other parental concerns. There will be a special celebration of Speech and Language Month in May with speech screening and free books for children. Call (705) 324-3569 or 1-866-888-4577 for more information.

Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalist Meeting
When: Thursday May 21, at 7:00 pm.
Where: Haliburton Museum
Details: Lindsay Maxim, Executive Co-Ordinator of the Kawartha Turtle Trama Centre will speak about the rehabilitation and release of injured Ontario Turtles by the Kawartha Turtle Trama Centre. Members of the public are invited ($5 donation, HHFN members free).

Roast Beef Dinner
When: Friday, May 22nd at 5:30 p.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church
Details: Adults $15; children 6-10 $6.50 Please call church office, 705-457-1891 to reserve a ticket.

Discover Your Voice, A Creative Writing Workshop
When: Friday May 22, 10:30 am. to 4:00 pm.
Where: Minden Hills Cultural Centre, Common Room, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
Details: "Whether writing memoir or fiction you need a voice" Open to the public, Free lunch. Fee: $97, HHWEN Members and Affiliates: $85. Register NOW via email: donnamorrissey@ns.sympatico.ca

BBQ, Large Bake and Craft Sale
When: Saturday May 23 from 9 am to 2 pm.
Where: Maple Lake United Church (corner of Hwy 118 and Airport Road)
Details: Something For Everyone. Hope to see you there! For further particulars contact Beverly Upton - 705-286-2130.

Haliburton Hospital Auxillary Geranium Tea
When: Sunday May 24, 1:00-3:30 pm
Where: Haliburton Curling Club
Details: Lunch, Loonie Auction, Gift Shop, Door Prizes. Contact Debra - 457-1235 for tickets. $15.00

Haliburton County Master Gardeners Plant Sale
When: Saturday May 30, 10 am. until sold out!
Where: Village Green - Minden
Details: Quality Plants at Great Prices! Come Early!

Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games Torch Relay
When: Thursday June 4, 10am-12:00pm
Where: Town Dock (across from the Post Office), Water Street, Minden
A chance to welcome the Pan Am Games torch to the Town of Minden and to cheer on our local community torch bearers.
Contact: Elisha Weiss, Community Development Coordinator, 705-286-1936 x 204 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca

Haliburton Highlands Grannies to Grannies Tea
When: Sunday June 7, 2-4 pm.
Where: Haliburton Legion
Details: Tea, lunch, door prizes, plant sale, African Marketplace. Tickets $12.00. Contact Gayle 286-3411, Norma 457-2015

Recurring Events

Kitchen Party Music Jams
When: Every Saturday From 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (continuous event)
Where: Dominion Hotel Pub, 113 Main Street, Minden, ON
Details: Musicians are welcome to come out to play and Fans are welcome to come out and enjoy the music at the free Jam Sessions every Saturday afternoon - 1st Saturday Folk/Celtic Music, 2nd & 5th Saturdays Mixed Acoustic Music, 3rd Saturday Country Music & 4th Saturday Bluegrass Music.
Contact: Gerry Mitchell at (705)799-5008 or by email at kitchenpartymusicjams@hotmail.com

Messy Church
When: Third Monday of each month, 4:40 to 6:30 pm.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church (617 Mountain Street, Haliburton)
Details : Come join us for a light dinner, crafts and Bible stories! All welcome.

Toastmasters
When: Wednesday evenings, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Where: Minden United Church, Newcastle Street, Minden
We continue to hold our cost-effective, informative and enjoyable Toastmaster meetings at the Minden United Church, Newcastle Street, Minden. We encourage both men and women to come and to see a meeting to find out what we are all about. Here is a place to learn speaking and listening skills in a comfortable setting at a reasonable cost. For more information, call Sybil at 286-2624, Roy Haig at 286-4644 and Lynda Litwin at 286-2911.

Haliburton Highlands Hand Weavers & Spinners Guild Open Studios
When: Daytime - Every Tues. 1-4
Evening the 3rd. Wed. of the month 7-9
Where: Zion United Church, Carnarvon
No Experience needed
Contact: Pat @ 705-286-6042 or andreacoysh@gmail.com

Dorset Quilters & Needle Workers Group
When: Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.
$1 per person

Dorset Evening Yoga Classes
When: Mondays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
$75 for 6 classes or $15 per class. For more information contact Caroline Leeder at huttcaroline@gmail.com or 705-767-1177

Haliburton Region Shout Sister! Choir
When: Practices are held Thursday nights from 7-9 pm
Where: Haliburton United Church, Fellowship Room, 10 George St., Haliburton.
Details: Directed by Laurel McCauley, Welcoming new members. We do not audition and learn our music by ear. All levels of singers are welcome. We sing a fun variety of music from pop and folk to Motown.

Legion Events

Branch 624, Wilberforce
Jan Simon PRO

Friday	Pool 2:30PM Spaghetti Dinner 5:00-7:00pm Jam Session 7:30PM
Saturday	Meat Draw 2:00pm -5:00pm - Early Bird 3pm sharp Spring Fling Dance 9:00-close
Monday	Bid Euchre
Wednesday	Fun Darts

Branch 129, Haliburton
Dave Allen, PRO 705-457-2571

Mondays:	Bridge every Monday at 1pm
Tuesdays:	Open dart night at 7pm
Wednesdays:	Bid Euchre 1 pm start Bingo Doors open at 6 pm, Bingo starts at 7 pm - $500 Jackpot $1000 Jackpot - last Wednesday of the month
Thursdays:	General Meeting Second Thursday of the month starting at 7:30 pm. All members urged to attend Ladies Auxiliary Last Thursday of the month at 1 pm
Fridays:	Cribbage 1 pm start Meat Draw Five Draws, Five Prizes each draw, First draw at 4:30 pm, Last draw at 6:30 pm, Tickets are $2 per draw…Chester Howse, MC
Saturdays:	50/50 Draw 4 pm draw, Tickets are $1 each from noon onwards
Sundays:	Breakfast Second and fourth Sunday of the month – 9:30 am – 1 pm $6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed.

Upcoming Events: Election of Officers and Executive Thursday May 14th 7:30 p.m. All members urged to attend and please bring your membership card. Live entertainment featuring Gord Kidd & Friends in the Club Room Saturday May 16th 4 - 7 p.m. Enjoy BBQ burgers and sausage for $5 - No Cover.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call the Legion today for more information 705-457-2571.
Please come out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129…everyone is welcome!

Branch 636, Minden 705-286-4541
Open Mon-Thurs 10am-6pm, Fridays til 9pm, Sundays 1-5.
Clubroom open to the public, Patio open, Wifi, debit machine, table trivia, dart boards

Big Euchre	1st Sunday of the month, includes lunch
Lunches	**noon to 2pm**

Mon to Thursday: full menu and daily specials.

Tuesdays:	Tuesday Liver & Onions special, plus full menu available 12-2. On Fridays we serve beer-battered Fish and Chips for lunch or supper.
Friday lunch menu:	beer-battered fish with fries or onion rings. Friday supper 5-7pm also chicken wings
Wednesdays:	Meat Draw at noon, $8 buys 8 chances for butcher-quality meat.

Ladies Darts on **Thursdays**

The benefits of making special gifts to charity

By Jenn Watt

When Paul Heffer's neighbour passed away, as the executor of her will, he found himself responsible for overseeing a sizable charitable donation to six different causes. One of those was Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

"I think she really appreciated the fact that there was a facility available here and that they needed support in order to provide the services to the area. I think she liked the idea that it was local as well," says Heffer.

His neighbour had laid out in her will specifications that charity would benefit from the money she left behind. She had a connection to HHHS through Hyland Crest, which had cared for her late husband.

There are many ways to give to charity and to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, including bequests, securities and life insurance policies.

Often, giving these "special gifts" can have tax benefits.

On Wednesday, May 20, HHHS Foundation is holding an information session about giving to charity and reducing taxation. Heffer is scheduled to speak as is accountant Hugh Nichol, barrister and solicitor David Shapiera and Jo-Anne Ryan, vice-president of TD Philanthropic Advisory Services.

Choosing to give money to charity either through a life insurance policy or in a will is relatively easy if you consult with professionals such as lawyers and life insurance representatives, says HHHSF executive director Dale Walker.

"You just let your lawyer know what you wish to do and it's in your will," she says.

> "We've had some wonderful gifts that have enabled the Foundation with the [original] capital campaign and now the capital campaigns that came after that."
>
> **— DALE WALKER, HHHSF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Over the years, the Foundation has received more than $2 million in bequests.

"We've had some wonderful gifts that have enabled the Foundation with the [original] capital campaign and now the capital campaigns that came after that." She includes the current Making Moments Matter fundraiser, bringing in money for the new palliative centre.

"They're gifts we don't always know we're going to receive."

Ray Selbie was vice-chairman of the Foundation for 12 years and says about $1 million in bequests have come through his law office in Haliburton over the lifetime of the Foundation. Three clients have left their total estates to the charity.

"They knew that they wanted to leave it to the hospital because they had become ill, they had received really good care at the hospital ... and they wanted to keep that going for others," Selbie says.

He said in most cases he sees, the donations aren't about tax breaks as much as a "generous gift from the heart" and a sense that the community will have a lasting legacy from their funds.

Walker credits local resident Gail Cornwall for her help with the Special Gifts Program with HHHSF years ago. "Her expertise was wonderful at a time when we were still in the capital campaign," she says.

The Foundation has also received $60,000 in life insurance policies and has $200,000 pledged.

"A lot of that has to do with the wonderful care that the person has received and also the fact that they recognize they need to support health care," says Walker.

Aside from leaving money to the Foundation in your will or in an insurance policy, people can also give stocks to charity and reap the tax rewards, says HHHSF chairman Peter Oyler.

"We hope to promote the idea that you can give to the Foundation, [and] see that your stocks or bonds are put to good use," he says. A tax receipt is issued the day the stock is transferred.

Oyler says over time he's seen more people take advantage of this opportunity and that there are already stocks designated for the palliative care centre.

"We're starting to find that more folks are more open about their giving and estate planning and what they have in their stock portfolio and find that the foundation is one area that is worthy [of that money]," he says.

Find out more about giving to charity and reducing your taxes on Wednesday, May 20 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Pinestone Resort. There will be light refreshments and prizes. For more information, call Carol Patrick, TD Canada Trust, at 705-286-1300 ext. 250 or Dale Walker, 705-457-1580.

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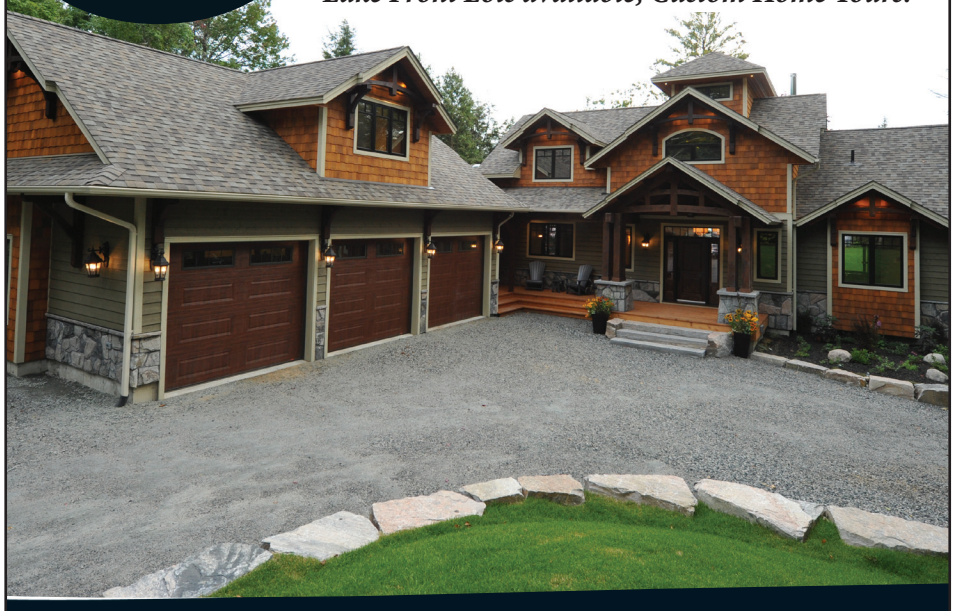

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